



# CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275 • WEBSITE: WWW.RPVCA.GOV • 310.377.0360

## SHORT-TERM RENTALS PROHIBITED IN RANCHO PALOS VERDES' RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

### TO AIRBNB OR NOT TO AIRBNB

Short-term rentals has been a contentious issue for many cities in California and around the country. A short-term rental is considered to be a rental of a residential property for less than 30 days. Over the last year, the City Council and Planning Commission have studied the issues related to short-term rentals extensively. After a comprehensive public hearing process and extensive public outreach effort, on September 20, 2016, the City Council determined that short-term rentals are prohibited within the City, since the use is not enumerated as a permitted use under the City's Development Code. As a result of this determination, the City's Code Enforcement Division has begun to enforce the prohibition of short-term rentals in the City's single-family residential neighborhoods. As part of the prohibition, the City is in the process of making the advertisement of short-term rentals within the City illegal as well. Violators of the prohibition will be cited penalty fines pursuant to the Municipal Code. For up-to-date information related to short-term rentals in the City, please visit the City's website at [www.rpvca.gov/987/Short-Term-Rentals](http://www.rpvca.gov/987/Short-Term-Rentals). Inquiries should be directed to Octavio Silva, Associate Planner, or Julie Peterson, Code Enforcement Officer, at (310) 544-5228.



## ALTA VICENTE RESERVE HABITAT RESTORATION



The City of Rancho Palos Verdes is proud to announce the next phase of habitat restoration in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. The 1,400 acre Nature Preserve is comprised of 11 individual nature reserves spread throughout the City, including the very popular Portuguese Bend Reserve (often mistaken for Del Cerro Park) and

Abalone Cove Reserve. The Nature Preserve contains 32 miles of trails, and is dedicated in perpetuity to habitat preservation.

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) work together to manage the Nature Preserve. The City owns the Preserve and provides public safety, maintenance, and operational services. The Conservancy is the habitat manager, which includes surveying and monitoring nature and protected plant and animal species, removing non-native plants, and planting and restoring an average of 5 acres of habitat each year. Habitat restoration establishes habitat (coastal sage scrub, cactus scrub, and butterfly habitat) that accommodates rare species including the California gnatcatcher, cactus wren, and El Segundo blue butterfly. By 2017, the Conservancy will complete the planting of 5 acres of habitat in the Alta Vicente Reserve which surrounds City Hall, located at 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard.

Restoration plans for the area were carefully created by the Conservancy. The plan consists of preparation (primarily non-native plant species removal), native planting, seeding, supplemental watering, maintenance, and monitoring. Ten acres of native habitat were planted in 2008 and 2009, and the latest phase of restoration begins this winter. The Conservancy is now installing a temporary irrigation system and plantings that can be seen from Palos Verdes Drive South below City Hall. The restoration will be completed over the next two years. Passersby and visitors to the site will be able to see the plantings thrive and grow larger over the coming years.

If you would like more information on the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, habitat restoration, or interpretive opportunities, please visit the City and Conservancy websites listed below. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, including planting of Alta Vicente in January and February, please contact the Conservancy or sign up at: [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

### City of Rancho Palos Verdes

[Trails.rpvca.gov](http://Trails.rpvca.gov)  
[parks@rpvca.gov](mailto:parks@rpvca.gov)

### Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

[pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org)  
[info@pvplc.org](mailto:info@pvplc.org)

## RPV CITY COUNCIL IN ACTION!

### UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2016

#### September 6

#### Update on Parking Restrictions in Del Cerro Area and Surrounding Neighborhoods

Council received and filed the Staff report and directed Staff to return with information on additional parking and traffic mitigation measures to address safety issues along Crenshaw Blvd.

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## CIVIC CENTER MASTER PLAN KICKS OFF

The City is in the early stages of a Civic Center Master Planning process for Point Vicente Park/Civic Center, the current site of RPV's City Hall. The 2015 Parks Master Plan Update called for a Master Plan Design and Public Outreach for this prime location which features panoramic ocean views.

### CHECK YOUR MAILBOX IN MID-DECEMBER FOR A CIVIC CENTER SURVEY!!



In order to find out what City residents would like to see as part of a new civic center, the City is planning an extensive outreach effort. A survey sent to all RPV residences is the first step. Survey results will provide invaluable resident insight and feedback, including input from residents who typically don't attend public workshops. The

survey was approved by the City Council on November 15, 2016. Pre-paid envelopes will be included for the convenience of residents and to increase the response rate. Look for them by mid-December at the latest!

**Responses need to be postmarked by January 17, 2017.**

To encourage our residents to participate, the public outreach and information process will also include multiple public workshops, listserv messages, banners, flyers, a dedicated webpage, HOA notifications, Mayoral announcements, RPVtv coverage and more.

The Master Plan effort is at an early stage of what will likely be a long and exciting process. For additional information, please visit <http://www.rpvca.gov/218/Civic-Center-Master-Plan> or call 310-377-0360.

So, please take a few minutes to complete the survey and be a part of the Civic Center Master Plan process! Thank You!

ECR-WSS

Permit # 194  
Torrance  
PAID  
U.S. Postage  
Prst-STD

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES  
30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD  
RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275

# HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT THE GIFT SHOP BY THE SEA!



Make your holiday shopping experience one of a kind by stopping by the Point Vicente Interpretive Center gift shop.

This gem of a coastal gift shop features items that celebrate the beauty of the Peninsula. Browse their lovely selection of sea life themed décor, stocking stuffers, home accessories, and plush toys for the kids. Looking for a special gift? The gift shop has hand-crafted jewelry and a variety of whimsical holiday ornaments.

## PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY HAPPENINGS

### NATURE WALKS

December 10 - 9 am • Filiorum Reserve - new walk!

January 14, 2017 - 9 am • Vicente Bluffs Reserve

February 11 - 3 pm • Sacred Cove

To RSVP and for more information on hikes: [pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org)

### VOLUNTEER DAYS IN RPV

Join us for fun and educational volunteer days. All events are 9 am -12 pm. Sign up for volunteer days online at [pvplc.volunteerhub.com](http://pvplc.volunteerhub.com).

Alta Vicente Reserve • January 7 and February 11

Portuguese Bend Reserve • January 21 and February 4

### VOLUNTEER TRAIL WATCH TRAINING

Saturday January 28th and Saturday February 4th, 9am to 1pm

Become a Trail Watch Volunteer and make a difference on the trails! This program trains volunteers to hike the trails on their own schedule, greet members of the community and report back any issues they find on the land. Please sign up for the two day training at: <http://pvplc.volunteer-hub.com>. For more information please contact: [BGoldsmith@pvplc.org](mailto:BGoldsmith@pvplc.org)

## CRIME CORNER



### STAY INFORMED WITH PUBLIC SAFETY ALERTS

In an effort to connect with our residents, increase transparency, and better communicate with interested parties, the City offers a variety of listservs that the public can subscribe to. These listservs send messages via email or text regarding issues of concern or topics of interest. We encourage residents to sign up for the newly created Public Safety Alerts listserv. This listserv is intended to notify interested residents and members of the public of important messages, including crime alerts, fire threats, "No-Burn" alerts, and other issues that may impact public safety. The instructions to sign up for listserv messages are below:

### SIGNING UP FOR CITY LISTSERV MESSAGES

From the City's website home page (<http://www.rpvca.gov>), click the green "Email & Text Notifications" box at the bottom of the screen or go directly to <http://www.rpvca.gov/list.aspx>. These links will take you to the City's "Notify Me" center. Follow the simple instructions to sign up for the Listserv messages you want to receive by email or text message.

**SIGN UP NOW TO STAY ALERT AND STAY INFORMED!**



### MAILBOX SAFETY: HELP STAMP OUT CRIME!

It's a Federal offense to take mail out of another person's mailbox, but strong punishments don't always deter criminals. Protect your mail and yourself with these simple mailbox tips.

- Check your mailbox daily, so mail does not sit in the box overnight.
- When possible, place your outgoing mail in a blue postal mail bin, not your home mailbox.
- Make sure your mailbox is in plain site from your home.
- Consider switching to a locking mailbox for added security.



## MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

### ANNUAL BUSINESS LICENSE REMINDER

While Rancho Palos Verdes is primarily a residential community, there are currently over 1,900 licensed businesses operating in the City. All business activity performed within the City requires the business owner to pay a business license tax. This includes any business activity occurring within a residential area (e.g. home office). Additionally, service providers such as contractors, gardeners, or handymen, whether based in the City or not, are also required to be licensed if they provide services within the City.



Business license applications are due prior to commencing operations and expire annually on December 31st. In mid-December, City Staff will mail 2017 business license renewal applications to all currently licensed businesses. This application should be completed and returned with payment to City Hall by January 31, 2017. Upon receiving a completed renewal application and license tax, a 2017 Business Tax Certificate will be mailed to the business. Penalties will be assessed on any license application received on or after February 1, 2017, at 5% for each month delinquent up to 50% of the total license fee. No extensions or waivers of the penalty amount will be granted.

### HOW DO I COMPLETE A BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATION?

The application is straightforward, takes only minutes to complete, and can be completed in one of three ways:

1. **Online:** You can file on-line by going to the City's website at <https://rpvpay.com/businesslicense/>. Then, simply follow the step-by-step instructions.
2. **By Mail:** You can download the application from the City's website at <http://www.rpvca.gov/288/Business-License-Information> and mail the application and payment to:  
Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall  
Community Development Department  
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.  
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
3. **In Person:** You can also complete your license application in person at City Hall, within the Community Development Department at the address above.

If you have any questions regarding the renewal process, please contact the Business License Coordinator at 310-544-5301. For additional information about business licenses and taxes, refer to Chapter 5.04 of the City's Municipal Code or visit the City of Rancho Palos Verdes website at <http://www.rpvca.gov/>. Thanks for doing business with us!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

### NATIVE PLANT GARDEN VOLUNTEER DAYS



Volunteers interested in learning about native California plants and gardening skills are wanted to help keep the Point Vicente Native Plant garden beautiful and lush. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Sundays: December 18, January 15, February 19, & March 19. 10 am-noon

For more information and to sign up for a Garden Volunteer Day, contact Megan Roy at [mroy564@gmail.com](mailto:mroy564@gmail.com). Check out more volunteer events at [rpvca.gov](http://rpvca.gov) or call 310-544-5260.

## 2017 WHALE OF A DAY!

Saturday, March 11th • 10 AM - 4 PM

Point Vicente Interpretive Center, 31501 Palos Verdes Drive West

- Free Admission
- Whale Watching, Games, Crafts
- Live Music, Museum and Garden Tours
- Vendors, Kids Fun Zone, and more!!

Free Parking and Shuttle from Point Vicente Park/Civic Center



# EXPLORE! WALK! DISCOVER! FREE NATURE WALKS THIS WINTER

Los Serenos de Point Vicente Docents lead nature walks year-round at a variety of beautiful sites in the City. Join us and get fit while having fun!



Photo by Jess Morton

## ABALONE COVE SHORELINE PARK

**Sunday, January 29, 3:00 PM**  
**Saturday, February 25, 1:30 PM**

Join us for a hike down to the tide pools at Abalone Cove Beach. Learn about the fascinating marine life that lives in the intertidal zone. Moderate to Strenuous. Part of this hike is along a cobblestone beach, so wear sturdy walking shoes. Park in the parking lot of Abalone Cove Shoreline Park; parking fees will be waived up to 45 minutes prior to the hike and 30 minutes after it ends.

## OCEAN TRAILS RESERVE

**Sunday, February 12, 2:00 PM**

Take a walk through coastal sage habitat along the eastern bluff of the Reserve. Enjoy coastal views, see World War II sites and possible gray whale sightings. Moderate. Park on La Rotonda Drive at Twin Harbors View Drive (first left).

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Wear sturdy walking shoes, sunscreen and a hat and bring a bottle of water. These two-hour nature walks are free and require no reservations. In the event of rain, the walk will be cancelled. To schedule a hike for your family and friends, organization or business, please call the Hike Coordinator at (310) 377-5375. If you are interested in becoming a docent and leading these public hikes, visit the Los Serenos docent website at [www.losserenos.org](http://www.losserenos.org).

# NEW STATE BUILDING CODES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017



Every three years, the California Building Codes are revised for improved safety, new technology, and for greater sustainability. The 2016 California Building Code contains the latest standards and specifies the requirements for building construction, occupancy, and maintenance. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes is required to enforce the latest California

Building Codes effective January 1, 2017. All construction projects for which plans are submitted after January 1, 2017 will have to comply with the 2016 California Building Code requirements. Projects for which plans were submitted prior to January 1, 2017 may utilize the previous 2013 California Building Code. Want to know more? Visit [www.rpvca.gov](http://www.rpvca.gov) or contact the Building & Safety Department at 310.265.7800.

# MAKE YOUR HOME WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER

The South Bay Cities Council of Governments, through its Environmental Services Center, is providing information to make your home run smarter, not harder. Having a smart home is about getting the most out of your home. Energy Upgrade California® can help you and your home work together to get smart on energy savings.



Don't know where to start? Energy Upgrade California's MyEnergyUpgrade tool (<http://myenergy.energyupgradeca.org/>) offers a one-stop-shop for homeowners and small businesses to find easy ways to save energy. Just register for the tool, answer a few simple questions about your home, and it will provide a custom plan detailing specific ways to make your home smarter.

Making simple changes to the way you use energy within your home can automatically make it run "smarter". For example: switching lights off when you leave a room, fully loading the dishwasher before you run it, or unplugging appliances and gaming consoles when they are not in use are all easy habits that make a big impact on your home's energy savings.

# CLEAN SWEEP!

## INCREASED STREET SWEEPING

Did you know that your neighborhood streets are getting swept more often? The City has increased the frequency of street sweeping to twice per month, or 24 times a year. To receive maximum benefit from the sweeping opportunity, please remove all cars from the curb on your twice-monthly sweeping days. For a schedule of your street's sweeping days, please go to <http://www.rpvca.gov/343/Street-Sweeping-Information>.



# GREEN CORNER



# MANDATORY COMMERCIAL ORGANICS RECYCLING, AB 1826

Businesses: By January 1, 2017, any business in California generating at least four (4) cubic yards per week of organic waste will be required to arrange for organic waste recycling services. Organic waste includes food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, garden and lawn clippings, nonhazardous wood waste, and food soiled paper that is mixed in with food waste. If you own or manage a business that falls within that threshold, or if you need assistance in determining if your business falls within that threshold, please contact your business hauler immediately.



Multi-family (MF) residential dwellings (apartments, condominiums and townhomes): If your MF complex consists of five or more units and generates 4 or more cubic yards per week of organic waste (specifically landscape and green waste), you will be required to arrange for organic waste recycling services. MFs are not required to divert food or food related waste at this time. If you own or manage an MF complex that falls within that green waste threshold, contact EDCO at (310) 540-2977 immediately.

# CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



Recycling your Christmas tree is easy. First, remove the base, ornaments, tinsel and garland, then leave your Christmas tree at the curb on your regular collection day between December 26 and January 15. No need to cut the tree into smaller pieces (unless it is over 6 feet tall). Flocked trees are acceptable.

If you live in a multi-family complex, ask your management company or HOA for the designated tree drop-off location. This location is typically in the garage area or by the recycling bins.

# FREE HOLIDAY EXCESS TRASH COLLECTION

Had a party? No worries! EDCO offers free excess trash collection for three weeks during the December holiday season (December 26th to January 15th). During that time, in addition to your weekly trash placed in the grey cart, you may temporarily place excess trash in your old standard-size cans and/or in plastic bags. No loose material will be accepted.



Received lots of gifts from Santa? Don't forget to recycle your shipping and gift boxes by placing them in your blue cart(s). As for empty gift and cardboard boxes, flatten and place them in or next to your blue recycling cart(s) for collection. Need more blue carts--call EDCO! They are free!

BULKY ITEM AND ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION: Was Santa good to you? Don't Ho-Ho-Hold onto things you don't need! EDCO offers customers free (limited) collection of bulky and electronic items such as sofas, TVs, computers, mattresses, desks, etc. If your item is in good shape and/or working condition and could be re-used, please contact a charitable organization first. Do not let reusable items go to the landfill! Call EDCO at 310-540-2977 for free bulky-item pickup.

# A SWELL TIME TO CLEAN YOUR SWALES

The rainy season is once again upon us, and it's time to clean out the drainage swales on your property.

Drainage swales, also referred to as "bench drains" or "V-ditches," tend to become filled with leaves, overgrown vegetation, and debris over the course of the year. If you have a drainage swale on your property, it's your responsibility to maintain it so that it functions properly. Improperly maintained drainage swales interfere with proper drainage flows that can result in property damage caused by slope failure, erosion, or excess storm-water runoff. In past years, the City found that many of the slope erosion problems on private property were caused by unmaintained drainage swales that overflowed. This can be avoided with frequent inspections and proper maintenance.

So, in preparation for the rainy season, make sure your drainage swales are clear of debris and overgrown vegetation to ensure proper drainage flow.



RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT:  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The City's Recreation and Parks Department is actively seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals for the following part-time positions:

- **Recreation Leader I** (For Hesse Park, Point Vicente Interpretive Center, and REACH, the City's therapeutic recreation program)
- **Recreation Specialist** (For REACH, the City's therapeutic recreation program)

Please visit the City website at [www.rpvca.gov](http://www.rpvca.gov) for detailed job descriptions, qualifications and compensation for these positions.

HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION  
SCHEDULE

EDCO 310.540.2977 or  
[www.RPVrecycles.com](http://www.RPVrecycles.com)

**December 2016:** There is no service on Monday, December 26, in observance of Christmas Day. There will be a one-day delay in collection for all routes that week.

**January 2017:** There is no service on Monday, January 2, in observance of New Year's Day. There will be a one-day delay in collection for all routes that week.

Any questions, call EDCO at (310) 540-2977. Leave all containers at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on collection day.

In accordance with the City's Municipal Code, remove all empty containers no later than 10 p.m. on collection day. Empty carts should not be left on the street overnight. Help keep our City streets beautiful!



CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS



<b>City Hall Main Line</b>	<b>310.377.0360</b>
City Manager's Office	310.544.5207
City Clerk's Office	310.544.5217
Finance	310.377.0360
Community Development	310.544.5228
Public Works	310.544.5252
Recreation and Parks	310.544.5260
Building & Safety Division	310.265.7800

CITY COUNCIL

**Susan Brooks, Councilmember**  
Email: [susan.brooks@rpvca.gov](mailto:susan.brooks@rpvca.gov)

**Brian Campbell, Councilmember**  
Email: [brian.campbell@rpvca.gov](mailto:brian.campbell@rpvca.gov)

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CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES  
NEWSLETTER

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RPV CITY COUNCIL IN ACTION! (Continued from page 1)

September 6 (continued)

**City Council Policy on Communication with other Agencies in the Personal vs. Official Capacity**

Council created a subcommittee comprised of Mayor Dyda and Councilwoman Brooks to work with the City Attorney to review designated policies and report back to Council.

September 20

**Short-Term Rentals**

Council affirmed prohibition of short-term rentals in areas zoned single family residential. (See article on page 1.)

October 4

**Involvement and Communication Enhancements with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy Board**

Council approved increased involvement and Communication with the PVPLC Board of Directors by creating a City Preserve Subcommittee, having City Staff attend Board meetings and creating a President's Advisory Council.

October 18

**Status of Master Plan Process for Ladera Linda Park**

After significant public comment and Council discussion, the City Council received and filed the report, permitting the design phase of the project to go forward.

**Code Amendment to Establish a City-wide Comprehensive Noise Ordinance**

Council directed Staff to review current noise regulation, study other government regulations and to return with a more comprehensive noise control ordinance.

November 1

**Changing November elections to even-numbered years**

Council approved Ordinance #591 reducing the terms of Council Members elected in 2017 and 2019 by one year. This change will have the effect of moving elections to even-numbered years beginning in 2020. Current Council Members' terms will not be affected.

November 15

**Civic Center Master Plan Resident Mail Survey and Public Outreach Process**

Council approved Civic Center survey to be mailed out to all residences in the City to ascertain resident opinions on possible elements at that site. (see article on Page 1)

**Funding and Installation Options for the Marineland "Bubbles" Statue at Lower Point Vicente**

Staff was directed to work with interested residents to repair the Bubbles statue and research possible locations and configurations at Lower Point Vicente, including prone positions which would reduce view impacts.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RECENT COUNCIL ACTIONS?

For a full list of past and upcoming City Council Agendas, including full Staff Reports and Minutes and video of Council meetings, go to the City's website at <http://www.rpvca.gov/772/City-Meeting-Video-and-Agendas>.

To receive announcements about upcoming City Council meetings, go to the City's "Notify Me" Listserv at <http://www.rpvca.gov/list.aspx> and select "City Council". You can also receive weekly updates by signing up for the "weekly administrative reports" Listserv.

RPV CITY PARK HOURS

**Abalone Cove Shoreline Park ~ 310.377.1222**

Daily ~ 9:00am-Dusk

**Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park ~ 310.541.8114**

Mon.-Fri. ~ 9:00am-Dusk Sat. & Sun. ~ 10:00am-Dusk

**Ladera Linda Park ~ 310.541.7073**

Mon.-Fri. ~ Noon-5:00pm Sat. & Sun. ~ 10:00am-5:00pm

**Point Vicente Interpretive Center (PVIC) ~ 310.377.5370**

Daily ~ 10:00am-5:00pm

**Robert E. Ryan Community Park ~ 310.377.2290**

Daily ~ 9:00am-Dusk

**Eastview Park ~ 310.544.2260**

Daily ~ Dawn-Dusk

All park grounds in the City may be enjoyed from dawn to dusk. Park buildings at Hesse Park, Ladera Linda Park, Point Vicente Interpretive Center, and Ryan Park will be closed Thanksgiving Day, December 24th & 25th, and January 1st, but the park grounds and restrooms will be open. The gates, parking lot and restrooms will remain closed at Abalone Cove Shoreline Park on these holidays.

The leash law is enforced at all City Parks. Off-leash dogs are allowed only in Rancho Caninos Dog Park at Point Vicente Park/ Civic Center.

